

Laura Green. 3 Oct. 1838.

My dear Son,

You seem to have cause for regretting the pursuit of a civil engineer in London. Sorry I am that it is so; but still you need not fall out with the profession, carried on elsewhere. It is a pity that, after having to a certain extent qualified yourself for it, you should throw your former studies aside. Again, I do not believe you would be long happy in an independence acquired by a certain number of hours, daily followed up, in uninteresting work, monotonous drudgery like that of a horse in a mill. Should I be mistaken in this, which I may be, all the willingness and exertions on my part could not, I am convinced, obtain for you a situation similar to that of Henry Hunt. He has obtained it, politically, through his father's name as an old reformer; not that the government would have bestowed on the son even that, did it not fear the cry of shame for not, in some way, rewarding ^{the father} ~~him~~ for his long services and sufferings in the cause. You could have hardly pitched on any M. P. less likely to forward your interest than Mr. Milnes; I have no claim on him whatever; and if I had the greatest, he could do nothing; he is an absolute Tory, votes constantly against Ministers, and is industrious in acting and speaking in

the house against them. Would Ministers give him any thing? — would he ask it? Even Mr. Baines, as Captain Howell tells me, could obtain nothing of the kind from them; they care little for him, because he must vote for them, or his constituents would displace him; all they have granted him is a petty office or two, for his immediate friends, local officers in the town, &c. as somewhat to oblige his constituents more than himself. Pray do not lose your hopes, your time, your energies in a vain pursuit. Rather inquire if there are not good prospects in France as an engineer. There now but englishmen are employed; and you, with your partial knowledge of the language, and with your present acquisitions, may well succeed. Endeavour to find out some persons in London interested or acquainted with engineering in France. Should your funds be running too low to allow you to remain a few days more in London for this purpose, Mr. Skinner will let you have a pound or two more on my account for I think it eligible, now you are in London, to make such an inquiry. It is natural you should desire to be independent; it is fit, in order that you may be happy, to have a pursuit; and, in this view, though against my comfort, I would not oppose your leaving me for N. S. Wales, should nothing else nearer home offer itself. But the first thing is to make every inquiry where you are, and the next thing is not to be hurried in a choice not easily thwarted in your views.

Owing to the dying state of Mr. Woodhouse's brother, it fell to my lot to sit in the chair and open the Session last Thursday. No one ever enjoyed dignity less, for I was not well, and the great chair seemed to make me worse and worse. As I walked home, I wondered what could be the matter, since I had been scrupulous in my diet, in order to get rid of my cold. In the morning I felt very ill and in pain, when suddenly came an attack of the European Cholera Morbus. I suspected it, as it has been ripe in Plymouth, killing a few, especially, as I hear, the young. Capt. Howell was very kind. The disease is shocking while it lasts. I had no strength, nothing but pain, with violent retching and purging. Last night I thought myself recovered, and to-day I am quite well. This Cholera has travelled from the town to us. Elizabeth has had a slight attack, so has Capt. Inader, and Capt. Branch a severer one than mine. Mr. Dechamps has also been attacked. I am now strong enough to walk into town to put this into the post, and the walk will do me good. Miss Fanny earnestly desires to see you, I agree with you that, for your reasons, you had better not go. Still let it be made known to her, through James when he returns, that, should she prefer to live with me, I shall be happy. The reason why I informed James of your proposal was because, though inefficacious and wrong, it was to your credit with your cousins; and because, lest you should repeat it, all your cousins should beforehand know precisely in what light I regard it, and no further. I am glad you were not here when I was ill, as Elizabeth

was extremely attentive; and I have told you all about
it that you may not be uneasy. Indeed I fancy it will
after awhile, be of more service than not. Give my
best remembrances to every one we know. Your
letter came only last night, - so I answer quickly.

Your affectionate father,
Phoebe Brown.



Mr. Carlisle
Care of Mr. P. B. De
100 St. Martin's Lane

London.

Laura Green news. Capt. Howell is resolved to be off next
spring. Capt. Grader talks of being off at Christmas. The
Berry's will be off very soon, - a sale is to take place
in a few days. Capt. Branch is seeking for a purchaser.
The Addis's are six days sail off. All this induces people
to think the place is an unhealthy one.

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

in relation to the proposed purchase of the

lot of land situated on the corner of

St. Stephen's, the adjacent and

corner, has been engaged by the

Legation of the United States to

represent the government and please inform

me of the result of your negotiations.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

John C. Calhoun

Secretary of State

I enclose herewith a copy of the

report of the committee on the

subject of the purchase of the

land situated on the corner of

St. Stephen's and the adjacent

corner, for your consideration.

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